Tourist places in Tamil Nadu

2933. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received many proposals from the State Government of Tamil Nadu for declaring various places in Tamil Nadu as Tourist Places;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of places declared as tourist places during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM(SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) (a) to (c) Identification of places of tourist places/spots is the responsibility of the State Government/UT Administration concerned. However, Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial assistance for infrastructure development of tourist Circuits and Destinations on the basis of project proposals prioritized every year in consultation with them.

Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned Rs. 21.48 crore during 2003-04 and Rs. 39.55 crore in 2004-05 for integrated development of tourism infrastructure in Tamil Nadu.

Development of tourist places in Chennai

2934. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount spent by Government for the development of tourist palces in the country particularly in Chennai; and

(b) whether any amount is lying unspent under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The Ministry of Tourism assists State Governments for the development of tourist infrastructure under its Scheme of "Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits'. A list of amount spent State-wise is placed at the Statement enclosed (*See* below).

(b) Ministry of Tourism has been able to utilize its allocations under the Scheme of "Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits."